



## *The Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers* CITY OF LONDON

### **The Master's Report for 2012-13**

I am pleased to submit my Master's report on the 2012-13 Company year. It was an extremely busy and enjoyable year and of course a great privilege to represent the Company at a large number and variety of engagements. The Tax Advisers Company is well regarded in the Livery and our Master's Badge continues to receive warm praise wherever it is seen.

It is of course difficult to single out individual events as all are special in their own way. Nevertheless, some have left a lasting impression and fond memories. In particular, the Red Cross fund-raiser in June where a number of Livery Masters were "Jailed and Bailed" at the Mansion House and transported to the Tower in a vintage bus accompanied by police officers in uniform from an earlier age. The tourists at the Tower that day were treated to an unexpected bonus as they saw the gowned Masters with Ball and Chain attached being escorted by the Beefeaters. The bail had been set at £1000 per Livery Master and release was available only once payment had been received and fingerprinting had been carried out.

Our dinners at Grocer's and Stationers' Hall and the Civic Lunch at Skinners' Hall provided an opportunity for us to invite official guests including the Lay Sheriff and Masters to reciprocate the hospitality generously provided by their livery companies. Our social events were well supported with the tour of the Renaissance hotel at St Pancras fully booked within hours. The informal new members evening at Grays Inn was much enjoyed by those present. Many attending my Master's weekend in Winchester said how much they enjoyed the occasion which provided another example of the fellowship enjoyed within the Company.

Attending a good number of dinners and receptions was of course the most pleasant but particularly worthwhile has been the opportunity to visit our Army and St John cadet affiliation units and present awards. The very clear impression to emerge is that these organisations provide their young people with lifelong skills and character building so that our grants to these units represent extremely good use of our charitable funds. One of the major functions of each Livery company is of course to support charitable works and our charitable funds are used wisely but I shall not pass up this opportunity to encourage our members to give even more generously and so assist us to disperse funds widely in support of the many applications we receive.

It was particularly pleasant to be invited to the presentation by The Princess Royal of a new Standard to 101 Squadron at RAF Brize Norton on the occasion of the retirement of the VC10 and the squadron becoming the second operator of the new Voyager aircraft. Needless to say, we have requested an early opportunity to get airborne again.

I was very well supported by my Wardens and our Clerk, Paul Herbage, throughout the year and my thanks go to them and the Court and the Committees for all their hard work and support. I was also delighted to be advised by some of our more recent members that they wished they had joined earlier!

I know that John and Susan Dewhurst are having a very busy and exciting year especially as it aligns very closely with that of the Lord Mayor, Fiona Woolf, whose consort is of course Past Master Nicholas Woolf. I wish all of them great success.

*Nicholas Goulding*